



News Release

Matthews takes second at Sapien Showcase Showdown Competition

Whistler, BC (March 4, 2008) – Andrew Matthews placed second in the Men's category at the Sapien Showcase Showdown held at Whistler Blackcomb Mountain Resort on February 29 and March 1, 2008. Second prize included a cheque for \$5,000 and a Nixon watch.

This is the 11th annual Sapien Showcase competition and is a very popular event at Whistler Blackcomb Mountain Resort. This is a unique competition that incorporates jumps, the half pipe and rails into one run. It draws a huge crowd of spectators. It is a two day event with qualifying runs held the first day; semi finals and finals the second. There were approximately 50 participants competing in the men's category.

Andrew was thrilled to end up on the podium in second place only 1.4 points behind the winner Crispin Lipscomb. Crispin is on the National Team and represented Canada in the 2006 Winter Olympics where he placed 11th.

According to Andrew; "It was amazing to place second in such a prestigious event, given the calibre of competition I was up against. I was just happy that I made finals because only 10 men made it through. Once there, I had nothing to lose so I just went for it. I wasn't really worrying about how everyone else was riding; I was just concentrating on landing my runs. The conditions were pretty icy in finals so I might have had an advantage coming from riding in Yellowknife; since that's what I'm used to. I was pumped that so many people came out to watch. It was a really fun contest to be a part of. The money will really help me to continue my training."

Andrew Matthews is training in high performance freestyle snowboarding with the Whistler Valley Snowboard Academy.

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